

To: Alisha Johnson/DC/USEPA/US@EPA[]
Cc: James O'Hara/DC/USEPA/US@EPA; Victoria Rivas-Vazquez/DC/USEPA/US@EPA[]; ictoria Rivas-Vazquez/DC/USEPA/US@EPA[]
From: "Stevens, Clark" <(b)(6) privacy who.eop.gov>
Sent: Thur 10/11/2012 3:05:44 PM
Subject: RE: Two inquiries to flag
Clark W Stevens@who.eop.gov
<http://www.institutionalinvestor.com/Institutional-Investor-Magazine.html>
<http://water.epa.gov/type/groundwater/uic/class2/index.cfm>
[image001.gif](#)

Suggested edit, looking at WSJ now.

Response:

As EPA has made clear, natural gas has a central role to play in our energy future. Under this administration, domestic oil and natural gas production has increased each year, and EPA is working with states, industry and other key stakeholders to help ensure that, as we continue to expand production of this important domestic resource, it is done safely and responsibly. In line with this goal, EPA has proposed sensible and achievable standards to protect air and water quality, based on important input from stakeholders including industry.

From: Alisha Johnson [mailto:Johnson.Alisha@epamail.epa.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2012 10:53 AM
To: Stevens, Clark
Cc: James O'Hara; Victoria Rivas-Vazquez
Subject: Re: Two inquiries to flag

Good morning,
Any word on these? WSJ is filing this a.m.

Alisha Johnson---10/10/2012 05:00:14 PM---Hey Clark, Want to run two inquiries by you. Let me know if you're ok with responses on these.

From: Alisha Johnson/DC/USEPA/US
To: "Stevens, Clark" <(b)(6) privacy who.eop.gov>
Cc: James O'Hara/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Victoria Rivas-Vazquez/DC/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 10/10/2012 05:00 PM
Subject: Two inquiries to flag

Hey Clark,
Want to run two inquiries by you. Let me know if you're ok with responses on these.

1) Institutional Investor magazine (<http://www.institutionalinvestor.com/Institutional-Investor-Magazine.html>) is writing on fracking, and he wants EPA's view. We'd like to provide him with the pre-approved language we have used on this:

Response:

As EPA has made clear, natural gas has a central role to play in our energy future. EPA is working with states, industry and other key stakeholders to help ensure that natural gas extraction does not come at the expense of public health and the environment. EPA has proposed sensible standards to protect air and water quality, based on important input from stakeholders including industry, which will help ensure that this important resource can continue to be harnessed safely and responsibly.

2) WSJ - Russell Gold is hearing from sources in the oil & gas industry that they are seeking to permit new UIC wells for oil & gas waste disposal. Some would be new wells, others repurposing existing oil and gas wells. He is asking for the number of new permit applications we have received where we have primacy and where the state has primacy. The data below is data we have provided to ProPublica. Let me know if ok to send.

Response:

These are the number of Class 2-D well permits that were issued by each EPA region in FY 2011 (10/1/2010 - 9/30/2011) for the states and tribes for which they have direct implementation responsibilities. Class 2-D wells are those used for disposal of fluids associated with oil and natural gas production. A description can be found at <http://water.epa.gov/type/groundwater/uic/class2/index.cfm>. The number primarily represents permits for new wells, but there are some that are re-issued permits for existing wells.

EPA Region 1: All states in EPA Region 1 have primacy
 EPA Region 2: 2
 EPA Region 3: 2
 EPA Region 4: 3
 EPA Region 5: 9
 EPA Region 6: 22
 EPA Region 7: Zero
 EPA Region 8: 3
 EPA Region 9: Zero
 EPA Region 10: All states in EPA Region 10 have primacy

These are the numbers of new Class 2-D well permits reported by states with primacy for FY 2011. This information is different than the above figures in that this is not the number of permits, it is the number of wells that were permitted.

West Virginia: 3
 Alabama: 4
 Mississippi: 11
 Illinois: 7
 Indiana: 12
 Ohio: 24
 Arkansas: 14
 Louisiana: 292
 New Mexico: 57
 Oklahoma: 37
 Texas: 368
 Kansas: 147
 Missouri: 2
 Nebraska: 7
 Colorado: 14
 Ft. Peck tribe: 1
 Montana: 15
 North Dakota: 63
 Utah: 1
 Wyoming: 16
 California: 45